(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to rectify the situation so that Delhi's population does not have to suffer unduly?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) (a) Electricity is a Concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a State/UT is within purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by establishing power plants in central sector through CPSUs. Unscheduled power cuts are resorted to at times due to a variety of reasons like sudden drop in generation, drop in the grid frequency, outages in the transmission and distribution network etc.

(b) and (c) According to the information obtained by Government of NCT of Delhi from the private Discoms of Delhi, the facilities for addressing/attending to faults and complaints in their respective areas are as below:

NDPL

Adequate staff for ensuring attendance of complaints within 2 hours, one breakdown attending vehicle in each of its 46 zones, five vans for maintaining communication with public regarding breakdowns, etc., three state-of-art fault locating vans, one mobile transformer (sub-station) in each of its 12 districts.

BSES

After taking over operations in Delhi, BSES Discoms have strengthened its Rapid Power Restoration by mobilizing 118 complaint centres, 83 breakdown vans, 4 EHV fault locating vans, 33 nos. 11kV fault locating vans, 43 emergency power restoration vans, 29 mobile transformers, 33 tower wagons and 255 high pot testing kits.

Working of private Discoms in Delhi

2228. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the indifference and inefficiency of BSES, one of the power companies responsible for power distribution in Delhi, in the matter of attending to public complaints regarding power failure in its area;

(b) whether Government are also aware that this company takes unduly long time in rectifying faults, as the number of recovery vans and the personnel available with them are inadequate; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take, so that Delhi citizens being served by this company do not suffer unduly?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) (a) to (c) The distribution companies are regulated by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. Under sections 57 and 86(1) of the Act, SERCs have also been entrusted the function of specifying and enforcing standards with respect to quality, continuity and reliability of services by licenses. Under Section 50 of the Act, SERCs are also required to specify Electricity Supply Code. The Act also provides for setting up of

Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum by every distribution licensee in their respective areas of operation and constitution of the Ombudsman by the State SERCs. The main function of the Ombudsman is to look into the non-redressal of grievances by the Grievance Redressal Forums.

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) has prescribed the Electricity Supply Code and the Performance Standards, which provide for definite time periods by which different types of complaints are to be settled. DERC has informed that the grievance redressal mechanism of the Distribution Companies are regularly reviewed in the Commission every quarter along with the Chairman of the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forums and the Ombudsman. Separately, the Ombudsman also files bi-annual report with the Commission on the performance of these Distribution Companies on areas of consumer redressal.

DERC has also informed that it had conducted a consumer survey for the domestic sector in the NCT of Delhi and the three problem areas pointed out by the consumers were the following:–

(i) Load shedding

(ii) Metering, especially fast running electronic meters

(iii) Billing problems.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has stated that since 29.1.2007, the Public Grievance Cell working under the Department of Power has received 1288 complaints relating to power supply in respect of BSES Rajdhani Power Limited out of which 1165 have been resolved. Similarly, out of 1082 complaints registered in respect of BSES Yamuna Power Limited, 1064 have been resolved.

Power projects

2229. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects sanctioned for various States of the country, State-wise;

(b) the financial allocations made therefor during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the present status of those power projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) With the coming into effect of the Electricity Act, 2003 the techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is no longer required for thermal generation projects. Concurrence of CEA is now required only for setting up of Hydro electric schemes whose estimated capital expenditure exceeds the notified limits indicated below:–

- Rs.2500 crores, provided that:
  - The scheme is included in National Electricity Plan (NEP) as notified by CEA and conforms to the capacity and type as mentioned in the NEP, and